

**MR. SPEAKER:** The hon. the Member for Topsail - Paradise.

**MR. P. DINN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

This is a fairly straight-forward question so hopefully I'll get a simple answer to it. This past February Trades NL wrote the then minister responsible for Labour requesting a jurisdictional scan across the country to look at best practices for Labour Relations Boards. He got a response that this would be taking place as soon as possible.

A similar letter was written to the current minister, so I ask the minister a very simple question. When will this scan be completed? I'm just looking for a month, one of the 12 months, and perhaps a year.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The hon. the Minister of Immigration, Skills and Labour.

**MR. BYRNE:** I think the hon. Member, Mr. Speaker, is trying to ply me into a glib answer or to a funny answer which I will not provide him, because it is a serious, serious issue.

What I will say is that I respect and appreciate the hon. Member's intervention. It is important to keep apace of best practices in other jurisdictions. In fact, I would suggest that we do this kind of analysis on an organic or a rolling basis. It's not meant to be a one-off.

Quite frankly, Mr. Speaker, I'm engaged in that right away. As soon as I have a result, rather than give a specific tombstone timeline, what I'll say to the hon. Member in respect to the office that he holds and the service that he provides to this House, I will share that information with him directly as soon as it's done.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Hear, hear!

**MR. SPEAKER:** The hon. the Member for Topsail - Paradise.

**MR. P. DINN:** I thought it was a simple question. Even give me a quarter. If it's going to take place in the third quarter, next year, whatever.

When will the scan occur? Because it's apparently been happening since February.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The hon. the Minister of Immigration, Skills and Labour.

**MR. BYRNE:** Mr. Speaker, the hon. Member does catch at a disadvantage in the sense that if I were to say that I knew the exact date of the completion of a task, then the task would have to have already been completed, because if you say that you know exactly when a job will be done, it means that you know when the job will be finished. I would like to do this as soon as possible, but for me to give sort of a rhetorical flourish of, oh, I can guarantee you it will be done by December 1, that would be disingenuous, Mr. Speaker.

It will be done when it's done properly and done right. If it's worth doing, it's worth doing right. I will share that information with him at its earliest opportunity.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The hon. the Leader of the Third Party.

**MS. COFFIN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, recently the Labour Relations Board accidentally sent the names of Grieg workers who signed union cards to Grieg. And several of those workers were let go before the vote could take place.

I ask the Minister of Immigration, Skills and Labour: Will he commit to introducing an amendment to the *Labour Relations Act* to reinstate automatic card certification, which was removed in 2014, so workers who want to unionize are protected?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The hon. the Minister of Immigration, Skills and Labour.

**MR. BYRNE:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

There is an independent investigation of a potential privacy breach. I would not, as a minister, wish to prejudge what the outcome of an officer of Parliament's investigation would be. However, there is clear evidence of a serious situation enough that the Chairperson of the Labour Relations Board itself did indeed provide communication of an action plan related to this incident, as well as the Privacy Commissioner conducting an investigation.

However, I would suggest, Mr. Speaker, the electronic versions of certification cards were a COVID-19 response, as I understand it. If there is a suggestion that a privacy breach could not have occurred if there was card certification in some form, then I don't think the hon. Member has an awareness of the circumstances around this.